

**Examiner's Amendment**

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Mark C. Van Ness( Reg. No. 39,865).

3. Amend the following claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

initializing a computer system, the computer system including an application processor to execute applications and processes in the computer system and a bootstrap processor to initialize the computer system;

declaring the application processor to be dedicated to handling a polling function for a timer interrupt process for the computer system, wherein a normal execution thread is to be processed by the bootstrap processor, and wherein the timer interrupt process is the only method of asynchronous event handling that is available to the computer system;

setting a timer for a plurality of time intervals for the timer interrupt process;

calling a polling function at the end of each of the plurality of time intervals, the polling function being performed by the application processor, the polling function to determine if any special events have occurred; and

if the polling function results in a positive result, processing the results of the polling function with the bootstrap ~~processor~~ processor;

wherein the polling function performed by the application processor comprises event handling for a network stack by polling a network interface card (NIC) of the computer system.

2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein ~~wherein~~ the polling function provides for communications between a network protocol layer and a network interface layer for the computer system.
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein a special event regards data that is available to be transferred from [[a]] the network stack.
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the normal execution thread is processed by the bootstrap processor in parallel at least in part with performance of the polling function by the application processor.
- 7-21. (Cancelled)
22. (Currently amended) A computer-readable medium having stored thereon data representing sequences of instructions that, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform operations comprising:

initializing a computer system, the computer system including an application processor to execute applications and processes in the computer system and a bootstrap processor to initialize the computer system;

designating the application processor as being dedicated to handle a polling function for a timer interrupt process for the computer system, wherein a normal execution thread is to be processed by the second processor wherein the timer interrupt process is the only method of asynchronous event handling that is available to the computer system, wherein the polling function provides for polling of a network interface for data packets that are ready for transfer;

setting a timer for a plurality of time intervals for the timer interrupt process;

calling a polling function at the end of each of the plurality of time intervals, the polling function being directed to the application processor, the polling function to determine if data packets are ready for transfer; and

if the polling function results in a positive result, transferring the data packets to the bootstrap ~~processor~~ processor;

wherein processing of the normal execution thread by the bootstrap processor overlaps in time at least in part with performance of the polling function by the application processor.

23-27. (Cancelled)

28. (New) A computer system comprising:

an application processor to execute applications and processes in the computer system, wherein the application processor is to be declared as dedicated to handling a polling function for a timer interrupt process for the computer system, and wherein the timer interrupt process is the only method of asynchronous event handling that is available to the computer system;

a bootstrap processor to initialize the computer system, wherein a normal execution thread is to be processed by the bootstrap processor;

a timer, the timer to be set for a plurality of time intervals for the timer interrupt process;

wherein a polling function is to be called at the end of each of the plurality of time intervals, the polling function to be performed by the application processor, the polling function to determine if any special events have occurred;

wherein, if the polling function results in a positive result, the results of the polling function are to be processed with the bootstrap processor; and

wherein the polling function performed by the application processor comprises event handling for a network stack by polling a network interface card (NIC) of the computer system.

29. (New) The computer system of claim 28, wherein the polling function provides for communications between a network protocol layer and a network interface layer for the computer system.

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30. (New) The computer system of claim 28, wherein a special event regards data that is available to be transferred from the network stack.
31. (New) The computer system of claim 28, wherein the normal execution thread is processed by the bootstrap processor in parallel at least in part with performance of the polling function by the application processor.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LeChi Truong whose telephone number is ( 571) 272-3767. The examiner can normally be reached on 8 - 5.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Meng-Ai An can be reached on (571) 272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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/Meng-Ai An/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2195